**Preaching Controversial Topics**

Directions: Discuss the following questions in your small group. Devote no more than 3 minutes per question.
In a few minutes you will share some of your answers with the class.

1. What are the most controversial topics a preacher could address in Singapore?

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | P | Abortion (all of these are in hidden text so students can answer themselves) |
| A |  | Anti-Islam (Still translate each of these so the teacher has some help) |
|  | P | Churches having buildings |
|  | P | Divorce and remarriage |
|  | P | Denominations |
|  | P | Euthanasia |
|  | P | Foreign maids |
|  | P | Homosexuality |
|  | P | Materialism/money |
|  | P | Mothers at home |
| A |  | Politics |
|  | P | Role of women |

2. Now put a letter (either “A” or “P”) by each of the topics you listed above to show if this topic should be preached or not:

A = Avoid this topic at all costs

P = Preach it because avoiding it will impoverish the people from God’s will in this area

3. What guidelines (universal principles) have you discovered that helped you know how and when to preach controversial issues?

a. Never make personal attacks.

b. Preach expositional messages.

c. Present both sides of issues.

4. What are the benefits of addressing controversial issues?

a. It is interesting.

b. It makes for a well-rounded audience as they hear these subjects infrequently.

c. It teaches discernment.

5. What dangers should the preacher of controversial issues avoid?

a. Don’t divide the church leadership (teach them in advance before preaching publicly).

b. Don’t allow people to accuse you of espousing your own opinion (preach the Word).

c. Don’t be proud of your knowledge (1 Cor. 8:1).

6. What scriptural examples are there of courageous, controversial preaching?

a. Stephen (Acts 7)

b. Paul (Acts 17)

c. Jesus (Matt. 23)